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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/680,985	10/07/2003	Tomohiro Ono	89277.0008	6482
26021	7590	03/24/2006	EXAMINER	
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P. 500 S. GRAND AVENUE SUITE 1900 LOS ANGELES, CA 90071-2611			AVERY, BRIDGET D	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	3618

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/680,985	ONO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Bridget Avery	3618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,7,8,10,11 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 3-6, 9 and 12-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed by applicant on January 9, 2006 is acknowledged and has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lyons et al. (US Patent 5,941,328).

Lyons teaches an electric vehicle including:

- A first controller that controls a motor
- A chargeable battery supplying electric power to the motor
- A second controller connected to the battery that controls electric charge for the battery and electric discharge from the battery
- A first communication path that communicates between the first controller and the second controller
- Each controller including a mutual actuating unit

Note, Figure 2 clearly depicts the function of the command controller and the power controller. The command controller is depicted as “activating” the power controller.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lyons et al. (US Patent 5,941,328).

Lyons et al. teaches at least one communication path (31, 32, 630, 819, 824, 854).

Lyons et al. is silent regarding whether the path is wired or wireless.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to include either a wired path or a wireless path, since applicants has not disclosed that one or the other solves any stated problem or is for any particular purpose and it appears that the invention would perform equally well with a wireless path or a wired path.

4. Claims 2, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lyons et al. (US Patent 5,941,328).

Lyons et al. teaches the features described above.

Lyons lacks the teaching of a power source control circuit (with main switches 38, 40) that turns on and off the power source.

Nonobe teaches a power source control circuit.

Based on the teachings of Nonobe, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to add a power source control circuit to effectively control the driving state of the elements of the power supply system.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 3-6, 9 and 12-19 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments filed January 9, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Contrary to applicant's arguments, Figure 2 in Lyons ('328) depicts the power controller (14) being activated by the command controller (50). Column 4, lines 3-9 clearly state that the elements of the power controller "are controlled" by the command controller (50).

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Bridget Avery at telephone number 571-272-6691.



Bridget Avery

March 20, 2006



Christopher P. Ellis

CHRISTOPHER P. ELLIS
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